



Kapa'a Pediatrics, LLC

# Hawaii State Immunization Requirements

(updated 10/5/2019)

Hawaii Administrative Rules Title 11 Department of Health Chapter 157 "Examination and Immunization" (HAR 11-157) now have new amendments that were signed into law on August 2019.

Highlights of the amendments include:

1. New vaccination requirements (effective July 1, 2020 for the 2020-21 school year.
  - a. In addition to all vaccines previously required for attendance (which basically are all the vaccines that are usually recommended), the following immunizations will be necessary prior to school entry:
    - i. Child care/Preschool: Pneumococcal and Hepatitis A (Hep A)
    - ii. Kindergarten: Hep A
    - iii. Grades 1-6: Hep A
    - iv. Grade 7-12: Hep A, Human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV), Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV), Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap)
    - v. Post-secondary school: Varicella, Tdap, MCV (first-year students living in on-campus housing only)
2. Medical Exemptions:
  - a. "Medical Exemption Form" completed by a certified health care provider stating the student has a stated medical contraindication or precaution, in conformance with Exhibit B, which reportedly can be found online or by contacting the Hawaii Department of Health.
    - i. Issuing practitioner must give a copy of the current medical exemption form to the parent who must submit it to the school AND must send a copy of the form to the Hawaii Department of Health, Immunization Branch (P.O. Box 3378, Honolulu, HI 96801-9984 or fax to (808) 586-8347).
  - b. Philosophical and religious exemptions are no longer accepted.
3. 7th Grade Physical Examination:
  - a. All students entering 7th grade must present a record of a physical examination to his/her school, performed within 12 months before the date of first attendance.

Hawaii's democratic-led legislature follows the current political trend to try to close vaccine-exemption loop-holes. Similarly, democratic-led states such as California, Colorado, Arizona, New Jersey, Washington, Maine, and New York are in the process or have passed similar vaccine mandates. Many Republicans, despite being equally pro-vaccine, are the minority opposition to these democratic-led bills, as they argue for medical freedom and parental choice.

Being a provider in Hawaii we plan to follow the state laws as written. Over the past 10 years we have seen one child who had a possible transient complication from a vaccine that would be noted as a "Precaution." Please do not ask us to fill out a Medical Exemption Form if your child does not have a "Contraindication" or "Precaution" as noted on the form.

We have already had some parents be especially angry and rude to our staff regarding this issue. Please remember, just because Kapaa Pediatrics strongly support vaccines, we will not force any family or child to get a vaccine. If you would like to schedule a vaccine with our office we can assist you. If you do not want to give your child any vaccines we are okay with that as well.

Please note, our staff will never physically restrain any older child who refuses to get a vaccine requested by the parent. If this extremely rare case arises it will be the responsibility of the family to bring in appropriate support to assist our staff so that there is not an unsafe environment for the child or the staff.

Thank you for taking the time to update yourself on the new vaccination and physical exam laws set by our state. We hope this clarifies the current laws and also Kapaa Pediatric's role in keeping our children safe.

Aloha,

Kapaa Pediatrics, LLC

Drs. Jesse and Sarah Lam